

## How could I get it?

You can get it by having **unprotected sex** with an infected partner.

Infected women who become **pregnant can pass it to their unborn children.**

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Adapted with permission from StampOutSyphilis!

**SOS**

**1-800-227-8922**

or call the CDC National STD Hotline:

**(518) 474-3598**

If you have questions or want more information, contact your local health department. Or call the New York State Department of Health:

**It doesn't discriminate.**

# Syphilis

**Get tested. Get treated.**

## What is syphilis?

**Syphilis** is a sexually transmitted disease that, if untreated, can cause damage to the brain, heart, eyes and other body parts.

## What should I look for?

### A few weeks after exposure

- Small, painless sores on or around the genitals, rectum or mouth, that heal in a month or less.

### About 6 weeks later

- Rash on hands or feet
- Sores on or inside the mouth and tongue
- Wartlike sores on or around the genital area
- Fever, headache, tiredness, swollen glands, thinning hair and sore throat.

Some people have no symptoms, but can be diagnosed through a simple blood test. Syphilis can be treated with medication and is curable if detected in the early stages of the infection.

### To prevent syphilis:

- Practice abstinence (don't have sex), or
- If having sex, use a condom or dental dam